

member 800 is fixed to each of respective hook members 801 of two fastening devices. The hook member 801 does not have, unlike the hook member 601, any portion which is moved toward a main frame member 781 and away from a pressing frame member (not shown) when the corresponding fastening device fastens the pressing frame member to the main frame member 781. However, in the present embodiment, each fastening device includes the spring member 800. When each fastening device fastens the pressing frame member to the main frame member 781 after a cap 700 is set on the main frame member 781, the hook member 801 is rotated about an axis line of a support axis member 811 and accordingly the spring member 800 is rotated with the hook member 801, so that the spring member 800 engages the cap 700 and elastically presses the cap 700 against an outer circumferential surface of the main frame member 781. Thus, the cap 700 is fully secured onto the main frame member 781, and each sewing head M1 to M3 can form an excellent embroidery on each of a frontal portion and a right and/or left temporal portion of the cap 700.

In the embodiment shown in FIG. 11, the fastening devices are provided by the connecting members 600 and the hook members 501 which are engageable and disengageable with and from each other. However, as shown in FIG. 21, each fastening device may be provided by a main-frame-member-side (first) member 900, an intermediate (second) member 901, a pressing-frame-member-side (third) member 902. The second member 901 is hinged, at one end thereof, with the first member 900 and is hinged, at the other end thereof, with the third member 902. The first member 900 is rotatably connected to a support member connected to a main frame member 881, and the third member 902 is rotatably connected to a pressing frame member 882. In the latter case, each fastening device may selectively be placed in a fastening state in which one end of the first member 900 connected to the second member 901 engages, by snap action, one end of the pressing frame member 882 to which the third member 902 is connected, and a unfastening state in which the first member 900 is disengaged from the pressing frame member 882. While each fastening device is placed in the unfastening state, the three members 900, 901, 902 can be extended by the sum of respective lengths of the second and third members 901, 902, so that a cap 700 can easily be inserted into a space which is created between the main frame member 881 and the pressing frame member 882. On the other hand, while each fastening device is placed in the fastening state, the three members 900, 901, 902 securely retain the cap 700 on the main frame member 881 against the restoring force of the cloth material of the cap 700 being pressed and deformed under the pressing frame member 882.

It is to be understood that the present invention may be embodied with other changes, improvements, and modifications that may occur to those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A headgear holder for use with a sewing machine, the headgear holder holding a headgear including a covering member which has an opening and covers the head of a person through the opening, and a sweatband which is fixed at a portion thereof to an inner surface of an annular portion of the covering member located on the side of the opening, the sweatband being foldable into an inner space of the covering member and unfoldable outside from the inner space through the opening, the sewing machine forming an

embroidery on each of a frontal portion, and at least one of a right and a left temporal portion, of the annular portion, the headgear holder comprising:

a main frame member on which the headgear is set such that the sweatband unfolded outside and the annular portion of the covering member externally fit on said main frame member;

a pressing member which externally presses the headgear set on said main frame member; and

two fastening devices one of which is provided between said main frame member and a corresponding one of opposite ends of said pressing member and the other of which is provided between the main frame member and the other end of the pressing member, said two fastening devices cooperating with each other to fasten the pressing member to the main frame member to hold the headgear between the pressing member and the main frame member, each of said fastening devices being provided at a position where said each fastening device permits the sweatband unfolded outside to fit externally on the main frame member.

2. A headgear holder according to claim 1, wherein said each fastening device is selectively placed by a user in a first state in which said each fastening device fastens said pressing member to said main frame member to hold the headgear between the pressing member and the main frame member, and a second state in which said each fastening device unfastens the pressing member from the main frame member.

3. A headgear holder according to claim 2, wherein said each fastening device comprises a manually operable member which is movably supported by one of said pressing member and said main frame member and which is manually movable to fasten the pressing member to the main frame member, and an engageable member which is supported by the other of the pressing member and the main frame member such that said engageable member is engageable with, and disengageable from, said manually operable member and which is engaged with the manually operable member to fasten the pressing member to the main frame member.

4. A headgear holder according to claim 3, wherein said each fastening device comprises a support member which supports one of said manually operable member and said engageable member which is supported by said main frame member, and wherein a space is provided between said support member and an outer surface of the main frame member, the sweatband unfolded outside being inserted into said space and thereby externally fit on the main frame member.

5. A headgear holder according to claim 1, wherein said two fastening devices are provided at two positions corresponding to the right and left temporal portions of the headgear set on said main frame member, respectively.

6. A headgear holder for use with a sewing machine, the headgear holder holding a headgear including a covering member which has an opening and covers the head of a person through the opening, and a sweatband which is fixed at a portion thereof to an inner surface of an annular portion of the covering member located on the side of the opening, the sweatband being foldable into an inner space of the covering member and unfoldable outside from the inner space through the opening, the sewing machine forming an embroidery on a sewing portion of the covering member which corresponds to the sweatband folded inside, the headgear holder comprising:

a main frame member on which the headgear is set such that at least a portion of the sweatband which corre-

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sponds to the sewing portion of the covering member is unfolded outside and such that the annular portion of the covering member and the outside unfolded portion of the sweatband externally fit on said main frame member;

- a pressing member which presses the outside unfolded portion of the sweatband on said main frame member; and
- a switching device which is operable for placing said pressing member in a first state in which the pressing member presses the outside unfolded portion of the sweatband on said main frame member and in a second state in which the pressing member does not press the outside unfolded portion of the sweatband on the main frame member.

7. A headgear holder according to claim 6, wherein said pressing member includes a first pressing portion which presses the outside unfolded portion of the sweatband, and a second pressing portion which presses a portion of the covering member which is nearer to the opening than the sewing portion of the covering member.

8. A headgear holder according to claim 7, the headgear additionally including a visor projecting outside from the annular portion thereof, wherein said pressing member has a shape which assures that the pressing member presses both the outside unfolded portion of the sweatband and said portion of the covering member nearer to the opening, on said main frame member, without being interfered with by the visor of the headgear set on the main frame member.

9. A headgear holder according to claim 8, wherein said pressing member includes:

- a covering-member pressing portion which extends along, and presses, said portion of the covering member nearer to the opening;

- two arm portions which project from opposite ends of said covering-member pressing portion, respectively, in a direction which is substantially perpendicular to a direction of extending of the covering-member pressing portion and is substantially parallel to a direction of outside unfolding of the sweatband through the opening; and

- two sweatband pressing portions which project from said two arm portions, respectively, toward each other in a direction substantially parallel to said direction of extending of said covering-member pressing portion and which cooperate with each other to press the sweatband on said main frame member.

10. A headgear holder according to claim 9, further comprising:

- a first visor-support member which projects from said main frame member and supports a free end portion of the visor of the headgear set on the main frame member; and

- at least one hook member which is provided on at least one lengthwise intermediate portion of said covering-member pressing portion, a cord being engageable with said first visor-support member and said hook member to press the visor of the headgear against the first visor-support member.

11. A headgear holder according to claim 10, further comprising at least one second visor-support member which is provided on said main frame member and supports a base portion of the visor of the headgear which is remote from the free end portion of the visor.

12. A headgear holder according to claim 11, wherein said second visor-support member is opposed to said hook

member, so that the second visor-support member and the hook member cooperate with each other to position the base portion of the visor of the headgear in a direction in which the cord presses the visor against the first visor-support member.

13. A headgear holder according to claim 9, wherein said switching device comprises two fastening devices each of which fastens a corresponding one of said two arm portions of said pressing member to said main frame member, thereby placing the pressing member in said first state in which the pressing member presses the outside unfolded portion of the sweatband on the main frame member, said each fastening device unfastening said corresponding one arm portion of the pressing member from the main frame member, thereby placing the pressing member in said second state in which the pressing member does not press the outside unfolded portion of the sweatband on the main frame member.

14. A headgear holder for use with a sewing machine, the headgear holder holding a headgear including a covering member which has an opening and covers the head of a person through the opening, the covering member including an annular portion located on the side of the opening, the sewing machine forming an embroidery on the annular portion of the covering member, the headgear holder comprising:

a main frame member on which the headgear is set such that the annular portion of the covering member externally fits on said main frame member;

a pressing member which externally presses the headgear set on said main frame member; and

two fastening devices which fasten opposite end portions of said pressing member to said main frame member, respectively, to press the pressing member against the main frame member and thereby hold the headgear between the pressing member and the main frame member, said opposite end portions of the pressing member being unfastenable from the main frame member by said two fastening devices, respectively.

15. A headgear holder according to claim 14, wherein said main frame member has a generally cylindrical shape, and wherein each of said two fastening devices comprises a support axis member only one of opposite end portions of which is supported by said main frame member such that a space is provided between said support axis member and an outer circumferential surface of the main frame member and such that the support axis member extends toward the headgear set on the main frame member, in a direction parallel to a center line of said outer circumferential surface of the main frame member, said each fastening device further comprising a rotatable member which is supported by said support axis member such that said rotatable member is rotatable about an axis line of the support axis member relative to the main frame member.

16. A headgear holder according to claim 15, wherein said rotatable member includes a portion which moves toward said outer circumferential surface and moves away from said pressing member when said each fastening device fastens the pressing member to the main frame member.

17. A headgear holder according to claim 15, wherein said each fastening device further comprises a spring member which is supported by said rotatable member such that when said each fastening device fastens said pressing member to said main frame member, said spring member is moved with the rotatable member toward said main frame member and is elastically deformed to press the headgear on the main frame member.

18. A headgear holder according to claim 15, wherein said each fastening device further comprises:

a manually operable lever which is supported by said pressing member such that said manually operable lever is rotatable relative to the pressing member about an axis line parallel to said center line of said outer circumferential surface of said main frame member; and

an engageable member which is supported by an intermediate portion of said manually operable lever such that said engageable member is rotatable about an axis line parallel to said center line of said outer circumferential surface, said engageable member being engageable with said rotatable member.

said each fastening device fastening the pressing member to the main frame member, in a stable fastening state thereof in which said each fastening device is placed by the user by engaging said engageable member with said rotatable member and subsequently rotating said manually operable member relative to said pressing member over a dead center of the manually operable member.

19. A headgear holder according to claim 18, wherein said rotatable member includes:

a cylindrical portion which fits on said support axis member such that said cylindrical portion is rotatable about an axis line of the support axis member relative to said main frame member;

a bent arm including a base portion which projects, in said stable fastening state of said each fastening device, from said cylindrical portion toward said outer circumferential surface of said main frame member, said bent arm further including a bent portion which projects, in said stable fastening state, from said base portion along said outer circumferential surface toward said pressing member; and

an engageable portion which comprises a free end portion of said bent arm and is engageable with said engageable member.

20. A headgear holder according to claim 19, wherein said engageable member comprises a ring having a generally rectangular shape and including four elongate portions which correspond to four sides of said rectangular shape, respectively, and cooperate with one another to define an inside hole of said ring, and wherein said engageable portion of said rotatable member comprises a hook portion which is engageable with one of said four elongate portions through said inside hole.

21. A headgear holder according to claim 20, wherein each of two elongate portions adjacent to said one elongate portion of said ring includes a bent end portion located adjacent to a corresponding one of opposite ends of said one elongate portion.

22. A headgear holder for use with a sewing machine, the headgear holder holding a headgear including a covering member which has an opening and covers the head of a person through the opening, and a sweatband which is fixed at a portion thereof to an inner surface of an annular portion of the covering member located on the side of the opening, the sweatband being foldable into an inner space of the covering member and unfoldable outside from the inner space through the opening, the sewing machine forming an embroidery on each of a frontal portion, and at least one of a right and a left temporal portion, of the annular portion, the headgear holder comprising:

a main frame member on which the headgear is set such that the sweatband unfolded outside and the annular

portion of the covering member externally fit on said main frame member, the main frame member having a generally cylindrical shape and including an outer circumferential surface whose center angle is not smaller than 220 degrees;

a pressing member which externally presses the headgear set on said main frame member such that said pressing member presses the headgear against a cooperative portion of said outer circumferential surface of the main frame member, said cooperative portion having a center angle not smaller than 200 degrees, the pressing member having a shape which permits the sewing

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machine to form said embroidery on said each of the frontal portion, and the at least one of the right and left temporal portions, of the annular portion of the headgear; and

- a switching device which is operable for placing said pressing member in a first state in which the pressing member presses the headgear on said main frame member and in a second state in which the pressing member does not press the headgear on the main frame member.

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23. A headgear holder supporting apparatus for supporting headgear relative to a table so that a sewing machine, independent of the headgear holder supporting apparatus, can operate on the headgear, the headgear defining an internal space and being supportable by a headgear holder that is selectively attachable to the headgear holder supporting apparatus, the headgear holder supporting apparatus comprising:

a base selectively attachable to the table to prevent relative movement between the base and the table;

a supporting member selectively attachable to the base for selectively supporting the headgear holder; and

a frame connectable to the supporting member for insertion into the internal space of the headgear when the headgear is supported by the headgear holder, a position of the frame relative to the supporting member being changeable.

24. The headgear holder supporting apparatus according to claim 23, further including a position changing device that changes the position of the frame relative to the supporting member.

25. The headgear holder supporting apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the position changing device changes the position of the frame relative to the supporting member in a direction of insertion of the frame into the internal space of the headgear.

26. The headgear holder supporting apparatus according to claim 23, further including a position changing device that moves the frame between a first predetermined distance from the supporting member in a first position, and a second predetermined distance from the supporting member in a second position.

27. The headgear holder supporting apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the frame is curved.

28. The headgear holder supporting apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the frame is arc shaped.

29. The headgear holder supporting apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the frame is shaped so as to conform to an interior surface of the headgear when the frame is inserted into the internal space of the headgear.

30. The headgear holder supporting apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the base includes a clamping device.

31. The headgear holder supporting apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the clamping device includes a manually actuated knob attached to a threaded screw.

32. A headgear holder supporting apparatus for supporting headgear relative to a table so that a sewing machine, independent of the headgear holder supporting apparatus, can operate on the headgear, the headgear defining an internal space and being supportable by a headgear holder that is selectively attachable to the headgear holder supporting apparatus, the headgear holder supporting apparatus comprising:

a base selectively attachable to the table to prevent relative movement between the base and the table;

a supporting member selectively attachable to the base for selectively supporting the headgear holder; and

a frame adjustably connectable to the supporting member such that the frame can be disposed at a first position relative to the supporting member and a second position relative to the supporting member, the first and second positions being spaced from each other, the frame being insertable into the internal space of the headgear when the headgear is supported by the headgear holder.

33. A headgear holder supporting apparatus for supporting headgear relative to a table so that a sewing machine, independent of the headgear holder supporting apparatus, can operate on the headgear, the headgear defining an internal space and being supportable by a headgear holder that is selectively attachable to the headgear holder supporting apparatus, the headgear holder supporting apparatus comprising:

a base selectively attachable to the table to prevent relative movement between the base and the table;

a supporting member selectively attachable to the base for selectively supporting the headgear holder; and

a frame connectable to the supporting member so as to be disposable at a first position wherein the frame extends a first distance into the internal space of the headgear when the headgear is supported by the headgear holder, and a second position wherein the frame extends a second distance into the internal space of the headgear when the headgear is supported by the headgear holder, the first and second distances being different.